

Doug Mercer, born in 1924, is a highly qualified and experienced electrical engineer who has spent a lifetime of service to the electricity industry in Queensland, and in recent years has specialised in engineering heritage.

Educated at the University of Queensland, he gained an honours degree in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering in 1945 and joined the City Electric Light Company (CEL) in 1946, spending 40 years in the Queensland electricity industry. Much of his early career was spent in the Test Department, travelling widely through Queensland testing and commissioning equipment.

He served in the design and development departments of CEL and later Southern Electric Authority of Queensland on the 110 kV and later 275 kV networks for state wide interconnection. He was Chief Engineer for Transmission Development for the Queensland Electricity Generating Board and the Queensland Electricity Commission. His interest in design and research led him to represent the industry on many national and international bodies and he had a continued interest in research at the University of Queensland. The author of many engineering papers on lightning research, he was awarded a Master of Engineering in 1960 for original work on designing lightning proof features into electricity networks.

Upon retirement in 1986, he continued part time University work and consulting.

As a result of his continuing interest in engineering heritage Doug was awarded a PhD from the University of Queensland History Department on the subject of *History of Lightning Research in Queensland* based on his life-long interest and work in lightning research and close association with pioneering work done at the University of Queensland.

He has served on the EHAQ panel for many years and while active in EHAQ, he presented two papers to the Brisbane History Group, one on lightning research and the other on the slow progress of getting electricity supply to the citizens of Ipswich.

Always a gentleman in his dealings with colleagues, Doug is an outstanding Queensland electrical engineer who has made a remarkable contribution to the development of the electricity industry in this state in a period of rapid growth, and to the preservation of historical information on Internationally recognized lightning research in Queensland.

CHANGE CONTROL

VERSION 1	8 APRIL 2011	325 WORDS BODY
VERSION 2	1 MAY 2011	357 WORDS BODY
VERSION 3	13 MAY 2011	374 WORDS BODY
VERSION 4	15 MAY 2011	358 WORDS BODY Sentence from para 4 deleted to get words to correct count.
VERSION 5	16 MAY 2011	358 WORDS BODY Comments from John Heathers incorporated.
VERSION 6	16 MAY 2011	358 WORDS BODY Comments from Keith Baker incorporated.